

New Yorkers will come back. Today I thank all of my colleague and all Americans for this legislation and for helping get the City on its way.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WILTON "CURLY"
COLLIER

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary service and dedication of Mr. Wilton "Curly" Collier of Alpine, California, who will be honored by his community this Saturday, September 22, 2001. Curly was born in Vernon, Texas on April 19, 1921. His family moved to Colorado where he attended high school before moving to California to enroll at the University of California, Los Angeles. In his professional life, Curly began his career as a parts manager and retired 30 years later as a sales manager in Alpine.

Curly joined the International Kiwanis Club with the sponsorship of fellow Alpine resident Bob Wilson on October 6, 1967. In the Kiwanis, Curly spent his time volunteering for the many activities and fund-raisers the Kiwanis sponsor, including the Worldwide Service Project, disaster-relief efforts, worldwide charities, and the Kiwanis family youth programs.

Curly became the president of the Alpine Kiwanis Club in 1970 and he used this position to help raise money to purchase radio equipment for the Alpine Fire Station. He was also responsible for a 346% membership increase at the Alpine Chapter, which went from 15 to 52 members in just his first year of office. In recognition of his outstanding efforts and achievements, he was elected to the office of Lt. Governor of Kiwanis Division 31 in 1976.

In 1985, Curly started the Endowment Fund for Children's Hospitals and the Miracle Mile of Quarters Project. In the first year of its existence, the Miracle Mile of Quarters Project raised and donated \$56 to the Children's Hospital. Last year, the project awarded the hospital's single largest donation of \$42,500.

During his tenure as a member of the Kiwanis Club, Curly has not only held high-ranking offices, but has been the recipient of many awards, including the Kiwanian of the Year in 1987 and the distinguished Hexson Award in 1996. This award was established by the Kiwanis International Foundation in honor of the first Kiwanis International President, George F. Hexson. The recipients are honored each year during a special reception at the Kiwanis International and District Conventions and are listed in the annual publication of the Kiwanis Honors Booklet, as well as on a permanent donor recognition electronic accolade at the Kiwanis International Office.

In 1998, Curly received the Tablet of Honor, the most prestigious honor available from the Kiwanis International Foundation. This award is given to recipients on behalf of individuals, Kiwanis Clubs, corporations, or organizations to honor their accomplishments and recognize their service. Besides the prestige that comes with the award, recipients are pleased to know that contributions made in their names are helping the Kiwanis organization provide as-

sistance to children around the world. Each recipient has their name added to the Tablet of Honor accolade in the lobby of the International Office in Indianapolis, IN, and all are honored at a special Kiwanis reception at each year's international convention.

Mr. Speaker, Curly is a symbol of commitment and dedication to his fellow citizens and community. He has dedicated his life to helping the Kiwanis serve both his community and children across the world. Today, let us all honor and thank Curly for his remarkable contributions and for serving as an example of placing others before yourself.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
HELEN BRANDT

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated citizen and long-time employee of the Quad Cities Development Group of Rock Island, Illinois—Ms. Helen Brandt.

The Quad Cities Development Group, an umbrella organization for economic development for the major cities in my district, has been the catalyst for attracting over 14,000 new jobs and over \$1 billion in new investment in the Quad Cities in the last 10 years. But an organization is only as good and only as effective as the men and women who give it its energy and life, and Helen Brandt has certainly been a dynamic force for enhancing the quality of life in the Quad Cities.

For the past nine years, Helen has been a Project Manager for the Quad Cities Development Group. Helen worked on many of the successful projects that brought jobs and investment to the Quad Cities area including organizing marketing efforts for business clients around the John Deere Classic golf tournament. Helen also led the successful visits by the Quad City community leaders on their annual visit to Washington, DC, to present regional issues to legislative leaders and Federal officials.

Prior to Helen's work with the Quad Cities Development Group, she served as the Executive Vice President of the Northern Illinois Industrial Development Corporation, and before that worked in the telephone industry for 25 years. Helen is one of those rare persons who can successfully accomplish all these work-related tasks while still finding time to volunteer in many professional and community groups.

Helen will be missed by all her friends at the Quad Cities Development Group, but she plans to have an active retirement in the Moline area, so I am sure her community volunteer efforts will continue. I would like to wish Helen, her two children and five grandchildren continued success in her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO JESUS "JESSE" SALVADOR VARGAS AND ROBERT "BOBBY" A. HILL

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2001

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to honor two dedicated citizens of Indiana's First Congressional District on the occasion of their retirement from the Inland Steel Company of East Chicago, Indiana. Jesus "Jesse" Salvador Vargas and Robert "Bobby" A. Hill, both longtime members of Local Union 1010 of the United Steelworkers of America, will be honored at a Retirement Party to be held on Friday, September 21, 2001 at American Legion Post 369 in East Chicago.

A native of Monterrey, Mexico, Jesse Vargas has been employed in the Transportation Department at Inland Steel since 1965. During that time, Mr. Vargas has been extremely active in Local Union 1010. He has held many appointed positions, including serving on both the Sports and Community Service committees. Mr. Vargas has also been elected Safety Man for the Transportation Department, and has been selected to represent Local 1010 at many United Steelworkers of America International Conventions. Throughout his career, he has shown his dedication to his Union Brothers and Sisters by traveling across the nation to assist them in strikes, lockouts, and organizing drives. Now retiring with his wife, Rubia, after a 36-year career, Mr. Vargas serves as an outstanding example of the dedicated Union craftsmen and laborers that built our nation.

Bobby Hill, an employee of Inland Steel and member of Local Union 1010 for 43 years, has provided exemplary service and leadership to both his employer and his union. Hailing from Haysi, Virginia, Mr. Hill grew up the youngest of nine children. Since 1958, he worked as a Switchman, Conductor, and Engineer at the Indiana Harbor Works. Mr. Hill has also served diligently in numerous elected positions at Local 1010, including Safety Steward for the Transportation Department, Guide, Trustee, and Head Trustee. As a member of the Community Service committee, Mr. Hill volunteered his services across the Calumet Region. Like Jesse Vargas, Mr. Hill traveled across the country to assist his brethren in strikes, lockouts, and organizing drives. Bobby Hill will be greatly missed by his colleagues at Inland Steel and Local 1010 as he retires with his wife, Mary Ann.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join with me today in thanking these two men for their lifetime of service, and in wishing them well in their retirement. Bobby Hill and Jesse Vargas have given many hours of their precious time in service of their Union brethren. The sacrifices made by dedicated workers like Mr. Hill and Mr. Vargas have made American labor the safest, most efficient, and most quality-driven labor force in the world. I wish them both a long, healthy, and happy retirement.